# THE GENESEE FARMER.

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N. GOODSELL, EDITOR

## HORTICULTURAL.

We have been looking over Forsyth's Treatise on the culture and management of fruit trees, 3d edition, published 1803, particularly that part treating upon apples, and find it goes far to prove the position we have taken, that we are not to look to England for choice varieties of fruit, but should consider that we have ample resources within ourselves for furnishing the most complete assortment of apples that can be found in the world. Was it not that the apples which have been produced from seeds in this country, are generally preferred to those varieties enumerated by Forsyth, most of which he claims as of English origin, how are we to account for there being so few of them cultivated in our orchards, at the present day? It cannot be said it is because we have had a prejudice against importing varieties; on the contrary, there has ever existed a kind of mania to procure from England, even at great expense, varieties which if found in one of our seedling orchards, would never have been considered worth cultivating. But the true cause, why more of those varieties named by Forsyth are not to be found in our orchards at present, is, because in this matter, interest, that *touch-stone* of patriotism, has prevailed over prejudice, which has only cast her shadow over the fact, that many of our native varieties have been called "English russets, English red streaks, English pippins, and English pearmains," merely to give them a kind of currency with those who were disposed to despise every thing which was American. By looking over Forsyth's list, we will recapitulate which of them are in general cultivation in the states, and whether they are of English origin. The first we meet with, which is much approved of, or known in our orchards, are the Red and White Calville: these are of French origin, and are cultivated to a considerable extent in the Canadas, and in some orchards on our northern frontiers; and it is believed that they originated in Canada.

The next on his list, with which we are acquainted, is the *Fameuse*: this is a fine apple, and he tells us "was introduced into England from Canada," where, or in the states, it probably originated: it is one of the finest apples of the season in Montreal Market. The Fenouillet or Pommed' Anis, is another known with us, but less cultivated. After this, he speaks of a Gilliflower, and several golden apples, as Russets, Pearmains, &c. Now the names of Pearmains, Russets and Pippins in this country, are very indefinite. Then comes the "Golden Pippin," the boast of the English travellers, more particularly, than of their horticulturists. Forsyth says the French "own it to be of English origin." He gives a more accurate and lengthy description of this apple, than of any other; and says, "*it is certainly the most ancient, as well as the most excellent apple that we have.*" We grant it, but we do not agree with him when he says, "there are few countries abroad where it succeeds well." It certainly does much better in America than in England, and is known to most of our orchardists by the name of Talman Sweeting; but is only considered at most, a second rate apple. He describes an apple which he calls a Holland Pippin; but his description does not agree with the apple, which we cultivate by that name. The Juneting described by him, is supposed to be the same as that cultivated with us, but when or where it originated, he does not mention. The Newtown Pippin he says "is an *American apple*, but said to be *originally from Devonshire.*" He might as well have said that the *Mississippi* was a fine American river, but was taken from the *Thames.* Again, "*this apple has a fine flavor, if not kept till too ripe*, when it becomes *mealy.* It is in eating from November to January." Now this must have been an intended misrepresentation, as these are the best apples sold in the London Markets, during the spring months, when they are worth from six to ten cents each; and we never saw an apple in that market of that name, that the venders claimed as having grown in England, but were imported from the United States. The Nonsuch and Nonpareil mentioned by him, are not described with sufficient accuracy to designate them: we have two apples known by those names, but we believe both originated with us. The Pomme Gris is well described by him, and allowed to be an American apple, and carried to England from Canada, by Mr. Barclay. This is one of the most valuable apples of the Canadas. "Pomroy"—we have an apple which is considerably cultivated in the states, called Pomme du Roi, or king's apple, which may or may not be the one he describes. The Royal Russet is considered by many the same as our Boston or Roxbury Russet, which Mr. Prince puts down as an American apple. Seek-no-farther—Forsyth mentions an apple by this name, but his description does not agree with either of the two apples cultivated in this country under that name, one of which Mr. Prince has marked as an American apple. These are all the varieties named by Forsyth, with which we are acquainted as being much cultivated in the United States, out of his list of three hundred, six of which are decidedly American, one French, and one unknown. Now if we have been importing varieties of apples from England ever since the first settlements of the country, and have not as yet procured one that has been thought worthy of general cultivation, whereas, we have during the same time received five or six from Canada, where is the propriety of continuing the importations, and paying great prices for them, when we should be so much more likely to be benefitted by sending to Canada; but as long as we will purchase, so long they will come out with new varieties with high sounding names, for us to buy, to try, and then reject.

The truth is, the people of England are not prepared to judge of the qualities of an apple, when compared with the Yankees; their climate is so cold and humid, that they never did, nor never can raise this fruit in that perfection that the northern states do; and when we hear a cockney telling of their Golden Pippins, and their fine bottled cider of Herefordshire, it always puts us in mind of Pat and the pumpkin in the pear tree. On the other hand, when I hear Americans telling how they have sent to England for this, that, and the other thing, I sometimes wonder how such men could consent to marry any one short of an imported woman. And yet, the English horticulturists are more praiseworthy than we are.—They, with a climate unfavorable to many kinds of fruit, have persevered, and by artificial means, have *out-natured nature*, and can boast of being able to furnish their tables through the year, with choicer desserts than any other people: while we, favored with the prodigality of nature, are content to send to the shores of the Mediterranean, and receive some half decayed fruits of the same varieties, that an Englishman would receive from his conservatory; and it has been remarked, that there was no part of the world where pine apples might be found every day in the year, in such perfection as in England.

## BOTS IN HORSES.

In a late number of the American Farmer is published a letter from Doct. R. R. Harden, of Georgia, in which the writer puts forth a new theory concerning Bots in Horses, which is, that bots never kill horses, neither do they feed upon them until after death. In the first place, he asserts that all horses have bots, but that fat ones have more than poor ones, and infers that there is but one way of expelling them, viz: "to starve the horse, and use him badly." He says that horses that are out of use and at pasture, never die with bots; and his reasons for this, is, that cholic causes the death of many horses, which is often occasioned by injudicious feeding and use: and that immediately after the death of the horse, the bots as if by instinct, perforate the intestines, for the purpose of making their escape. On the contrary, he asserts that if a horse is opened the moment that he is dead, the stomach will never be found perforated. If this is correct, it is a pretty strong argument in favor of his theory. He mentions a case, where a race horse killed himself jumping over a fence, and was opened a few hours afterwards, when it was found that the bots had near y eat up his stomach. He examines the common means applied for the relief of horses said to have the bots, by putting them into different solutions, and noting the effect in the following manner:—"Twelve two ounce vials had bots put in them; one had milk put in it, another water, another nothing as a standard: we then filled the others with a strong solution of copperas, a solution of arsenic, aquafortis and water, a solution of corrosive sublimate, &c. nine of them being filled with such things as were thought to be most likely to kill them. The arsenic, copperas and aquafortis, appeared to have no effect upon them; they appeared fully as contented as those in the water. Those in the laudnum, however, moved less than the others, remaining apparently dead at the bottom of the vial, but moved when touched: after keeping them until we were all satisfied that nothing that a horse could take would injure them, they were all thrown away." This is in accordance with the declaration of a friend of ours, who says that he has seen the experiment tried, of put-

ting them into a strong solution of potash, which did not appear to injure them. Taking these premises as correct, then the thousand nostrums and specifics given by most of our horse-doctors, are worse than useless, unless they are of that kind which would have a good effect in cholic, which he declares those cases to be altogether, which are so commonly ascribed to bots. We confess we are in favor of his theory, as we have had some experience with horses, and have generally given strong cathartics in cases which were strongly marked by those symptoms ascribed to bots, and in every case but one with success: and we do not recollect one case but what might be traced, either to a change of food, over feeding, or improper treatment. We think that the Doctor is entitled to the thanks of community, for giving this powerful stimulant for investigating the subject closely, at least, as he has come boldly into the field against those long handed-down opinions, many of which we give currency to without ever suspecting that we are declaring those things for facts, of which we have no knowledge; nor even suspect ourselves of conforming in opinions to those of the dark ages. The horse surely is one of the most noble animals, and ministers greatly to the comfort of man; and let us ask who has ever seen one of these sick animals in the hands of a *horse quack*, but what has felt a degree of pity for him? First, if his case is pronounced bots, he must have a dozen Dutch words whispered in his ears, then a number of blows with the flat hand, a piece of board or a shovel upon the belly, or must be rubbed from end to end with a pitch-fork handle, compared with which, being kneaded for the dispepsia is a mere trifle.

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*Pennsylvania Canal Expenditures.*—It appears by Governor Wolf's Message to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, that the money which has been paid to the Canal Commissioners of that state, amounted, on the 23d of last month, to $12,334,488 62. The number of miles of canal already finished, is 426; those under contract including the rail-road across the Alleghany, amount to 267 miles.

"This canal debt may seem," (says the Governor,) large to many of my fellow citizens, and to constitute a debt that neither we nor our posterity will be able to discharge. I am not one of those who believe a public debt to be a public blessing, nor would I willingly lend my aid as a public functionary to involve the commonwealth in a visionary scheme of imaginary improvement, the success or practicability of which would be entirely of doubtful experiment, and the utility or public advantage of which would be altogether probbmatical or uncertain. Neither of these is in my opinion the case with the plan of improvements now prosecuting in this state; but if it were otherwise, there has been no period within the last two years when the progress of the system could have been arrested without producing consequences not only involving in inextricable ruin and destruction individuals, contractors and others, largely engaged in the construction of the works, but the state itself in difficulties of the most disastrous character, from which it could not have been extricated without incurring the imputation of pursuing a vacillating course of policy, and of a want of good faith in its transactions with individuals; besides being justly chargeable with a want of that bold and magnanimous spirit of enterprize which her abundant resources and the wealth and prosperity she enjoys in such profusion would justly entitle her to entertain and indulge; the loss of from ten to twelve millions of dollars, and the abandonment to ruin and entire destruction of works, which, when finished, would be considered proud monuments of Pennsylvania's wisdom and greatness, but if abandoned, must and inevitably would, I should suppose, satisfy the most sceptical of the consummate disgrace and ignominy to which such a policy must necessarily have subjected her."

The Governor makes a gratifying statement of our state improvements.

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## KILN DRIED CORN MEAL.

We know not whether the manufacturing of Kiln Dried Corn Meal is attended to in this country; but, whether it is or is not, the following instructions from the Journal of Commerce, may be of some use:—

Kiln dried meal must be made of the best *yellow* corn; white would not sell. Hogsheads should be made of the best seasoned whit oak stuff, 4 feet 5½ inches long, and be 2 feet 3½ inches across the head. Four iron hoops on each hhd. The rest of the hoops strong, smooth, hickory. The hhds. must be made tight, as they are sold for rum hhds. in the West Indies—the only market for them.

The corn is dried in a large sheet-iron cylinder, or in pans, (put in motion by the mill) in a heated air-chamber of brick. The meal is sifted; the cloth as open as the common middlings cloth in a sup-reel, and about 4 feet long.

The weight in each hhd. 800lbs. and the hhd. must be branded with the name of the maker and *kiln dried corn meal, No.* 1. *800lbs.* The meal must be of a bright yellow, and smell strongly of the kiln, or it will not pass inspection. Ten hhds. per day is moderate work for a good pair of burrs and a good kiln, sixteen bushels of good corn will make a hhd.—old corn less. Ten to 12,000 hhds. are in New-York yearly for the West Indies.

It would not be safe for a new hand to construct a kiln, without the presence of an experienced workman who has put them up.—The sheet iron pans are better than the cylinders.

The price in New-York varies from $13 to 15 through the year, when corn is plenty. The cost of a complete kiln with pans, is $400 to $500.

The vegetating principle must be entirely destroyed, and the point of sufficient dryness can be easily ascertained by the smell of the meal while grinding. Great pains must be taken in making the hhds. *well*, and of stuff lsng seasoned; or the meal will make them shrink so much that they will fall to pieces before they reach the market.

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*Michigan.*—Two hundred & eighty-five thousand acres of land have been sold in Michigan, the past season. Supposing each settler averag d 100 acres, and families of settlers *five* in each, this addition to that of 1830, which came in after the census was taken, and Michigan would be entitled to take her stand among the states of the Union in 1832.

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*Hydrophobia.*—Davis Rock, of Bedford, Pa. about 6 months ago, wounded himself in giving some medicine to a sick heifer. He died on the 8th inst. of hydrophobia.

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From the New York Farmer.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORT

*For the County of Albany, Dec.* 1831. By J. B.

Our *Winter* was of an ordinary character, except that it gave us a few days of uncommonly severe cold, which depressed the thermometer to 18 and 20 degrees below zero.* This, it is believed proved fatal to many peach trees upon the borders of the Hudson. And it has been remarked to me by an intelligent friend, that this degree of cold is always destructive to the blossom, and often to the vitality of the peach. *Spring* opened propitiously. The fine weather of the last of April and first of May caused the fruit trees to put forth their blossoms ten or twelve days earlier than usual, and called into active life myriads of insects to prey upon their young fruit. This was an exellent *seed time* to the farmer who *keeps up with his work*, and had his grounds prepared. The *Summer* has been wet and warm, favorable to grass and pasture, but generally injurious to the ripening grain crop. The *Autumn* has been remarkably favorable for the labors of husbandry. The late crops have been abundant, and well secured. On the whole, the season may be denominated a wet one, and the crop rather more than a fair average of years.

*Wheat*, which may be considered a principal staple, was seriously injured by the close, hot and moist state of the weather in July, which caused mildew and premature ripeness. The diminution from these causes, was different on different soils—heavy crops upon moist flat surfaces suffering most.

The average shrinkage was from 25 to 30 per cent. More ground was sown, however, which in part made up for the difficulty.—There seems to be no effectual remedy for the mildew. It is generated by a muggish state of the atmosphere. The best preventions are, good drainage, narrow ridges where the surface is flat and wet, and avoiding the application of fresh manures to the crop. I have seen a top dressing of short manure, harrowed in with the seed, on stiff clays, serve a beneficial purpose in preserving the crop from the severity of winter. Although often recommended, and generally practis-

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*It is worthy of remark, that at this time the cold was 14 degrees greater, according to the Genesee Farmer, at Albany than at Rochester, in about the same parallel of latitude. This apparent difference, I apprehend, however, was not altogether real: for the observations were made at Albany at sunrise, and at Rochester at 10 A. M. if my recollection is correct. The difference, however, was considerable, and may be ascribed to two causes, viz: the ameliorating influence of the waters of Lake Ontario upon the north-west winds which blow at Rochester, and the influence of the south west winds which prevail a great part of the year in the valley of the Mississippi, and along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The great lakes never freeze over, and of course are constantly giving off caloric, and raising the temperature of the winds, which sweep their surface during the winter months. The south-west winds are believed to be a continuation of the trade winds, obstructed and changed in their direction by the table lands of Mexico; and coming from tropical latitudes, diffuse much warmth in their passage north. Their influence seems to extend, in this latitude, as far as Skeneateles Lake and the mouth of the Oswego river. To this boundary the peach flourishes and is a pretty constant bearer; east of it, both the crop and the vitality of the tree are precarious. Notwithstanding the influence of these causes, in moderating the severity of cold, the mean temperature for 1830, according to the academic returns, was 1 degree 33 minutes higher at Albany than at Rochester.

ed, it is well to repeat, that smut is prevented by soaking the seed in brine, and liming it before sowing.

*Barley* is becoming every year a more general and profitable staple, and most of our lands are well adapted to its culture. The present year's crop has been rather inferior in quality, and deficient in quantity. This has in part been owing to late sowing but principally to the hot weather in July, which ripened it suddenly, before the grain had attained its full growth. The price it has borne in market has however rendered it, this year, our best crop—having ranged from one dollar to one dollar three eighths per bushel.

*Indian Corn* has done remarkably well except where it was injudiciously planted upon wet or stiff grounds. Taking the range of counties upon the river, above the highlands, through which I travelled in August, I estimate the crop one third beyond the ordinary average. I observe that the practice of cutting and immediately stooking the whole crop, as soon as the grain is glazed is becoming more general. It certainly is an economy of labor, when rightly managed, and clears the ground in time for a crop of winter grain; and it also adds greatly to the fodder, without prejudice to the corn.

*Hay* has been abundant, though, as is the case in all wet seasons, its quality is rather inferior: for it is not the volume, so much as the nutritive properties, which give to hay its intrinsic value. These last depend on the season, the soil, the varieties of grass and time of cutting. A dry season, or a dry soil, other circumstances being alike, will produce richer hay than a wet season or a wet soil, because in the former the nutritive qualities are far more concentrated. If the comparison may be allowed in these times of temperance, the first may be likened to strong, and the latter to weak grog, the nutriment, in one being compared to the alcohol in the other. The grasses differ greatly in their nutritive properties; and it may almost be laid down as a general rule, that these are in an inverse ratio to their respective volumes. The nutritive matter varies, in the grasses of permanent duration, according to Loudon, from 19 to 82 per cent: the short jointed and creeping species abound generally most in it, as the blue grass (*Poa compressa)* spear grass (*P. pratensis*) florin (*Agrostis stolonifera*) &c.

*Rye* suffered from the same causes as wheat and barley, and the crop is short and inferior.

*Fruit.* The apple has given but a scanty crop, the plum hardly any thing, and the peach a mere nothing; but pears and grapes have been abundant, and of pretty good quality. Quinces, and the small fruits of the garden have also been abundant. The failure of the peach may be ascribed to the unpropitious winter; that of the apple and plum, to the great product of the preceding year, which diminished the production of fruit buds, and to the depredations of the curculio, which were never more numerous. It is well known that orchards do not produce great crops two years in succession, the cause of which is easily explained. The vital energies of the trees are so exhausted in maintaining the fruit, and producing wood buds, which demand the first care of the parent in the vegetable economy, that there is no time to produce the germs of a new crop, before the frosts of autumn arrest the work of elaboration. Hence a tree that carries its fruit late, seldom produces crops in successive years s while those which ripen their fruit early, a the cherry, the Siberian crab, &c. or produce moderate crops, are frequently annual bearers.

The question has been asked in the Farmer, if facts could be adduced to prove, that fruit trees, removed from the north to the south, do better than when transferred from the south to the north In answer to the inquiry, I would beg leave to remark that most of our fruits are the natural productions of climates warmer than that which we occupy. The cherry was originally from Pontus; the peach from Persia, the plum from Syria, and most of our esteemed varieties of the pear from France, the Netherlands, and the south of Europe. Hence the apprehension that in removing them farther from their natural climate to the north, they will become impatient of the cold, and disappoint our hopes. The mala carle apple of Italy, and even the admired Spitzenburgh, of Esopus, will not succeed in the colder climate of England, without the aid of a wall; and many plants from the middle states will not at first bear the rigors of a northern winter. But when varieties have originated or plants been raised from seeds, and acclimated in a higher latitude, they have acquired a more ready habit, and have invariably grown and hoeduced well on removal to a warmer temperature. Thus the cherries and apples from Russia, and the fruits of Scotland and Canada, are represented in the British pomological works, as proving remarkably healthy and prolific in England. Plants, within the zone of their natural growth, are more apt, like animals, to be hardy and prolific, and less sensitive to the vicissitudes of the seasons, in the north, than in the south of their respective zones. This fact has been ably illustrated by a recent writer in a Philadelphia periodical, whose remarks I think were published in the Farmer. But this is digressing from my subject.

The season has been favorable for *Roots.* The potato and turnip, which constitute our principal crops of this kind, have been abundant, and their quality better than ordinary. A fact came under my observation in the potato culture, which satisfied me more than ever, of the impolicy of taking two successive crops of the same kind from one field. Contiguous, and in the same field, I planted potatoes on three strips of ground, on one of which I had beans in 1830, on another potatoes last year; and on a third potatoes the two preceding years. The strips were treated alike, and the crop dug at the same time. The result was, that on the bean ground the product was uncommonly large; on the second strip, which I cropped with potatoes the preceding year, it was fifty per cent. less, while on the ground where potatoes had grown the two preceding years, I had little more than a return of seed. This satisfied me, that though all crops take from the soil food in common, yet that each species requires some specific food, which others do not take; and that alternation or change of crops is essential to good husbandry.

The importance of reclaiming some of our best lands, by draining, and of economizing manures, subjects intimately connected with the improvement of agriculture, are daily becoming more apparent to our farmers; and on the whole, I think the prospect of a steady advance in rural, as well as intellectual and moral improvement, is highly flattering.

J. B.

REMARKS:—We have frequently urged our subscribers to furnish us annual reports of the state of agriculture in their respective counties, or in their vicinity. Independent of the information which would be collected for the public good, there would be a habit of observation acquired by those who make these reports. For a young man we know not what would be more beneficial.—Throughout the whole year, his mind and his eye would be observant. Why will not fathers *educate* their sons to farming?

## FARMER'S WORK FOR DECEMBER.

The farmer should obtain his year's stock of fuel as early in the season as possible, and before the depth of snow in the woodlands render it difficult to traverse them by a team. It would be better for farmers, generally speaking, where wood is not cheap and plenty, to use the saw instead of the axe in preparing wood for the fire. It is said that a fire composed of pillets of wood, not more than 14 inches long, will give more than two thirds as much heat into the room as that made of wood of double the length; and that billets of from 3 to 4 inches in diameter, on a medium will be found most economical.

A valuable paper, by the Hon. J. Welles, originally published in the Mass. Agr. Repository, recommends cutting hard wood trees between 40 and 50 years of age, and the writer states that 'though trees may shoot up in height by standing longer, yet the period of the most rapid vegetation is mostly over and by this means much of the under growth is destroyed.' Mr. Welles is of opinion that in cutting over a wood lot to obtain fuel it is best to take the whole growth as you proceed. He observes that 'we have been condemned as evincing a want of taste in cutting off our forests without leaving what it would take half a century to produce, a shade near where it is proposed to erect buildings. The fact is that trees of original growth have their roots mostly in the upper stratum of earth, and near the surface. A tree acts upon its roots, and is acted upon by the wind, sustaining in common with the whole forest the force of this element, and it becomes accommodated or naturalized to this pressure. But when left alone or unsustained, it is borne down by the first gale, often to the injury of property and even life.' The *Farmer's Assisiant* likewise says 'if woods are old and decaying the better way is to cut all off, as you want to use the wood and let an entire new growth start up which will grow more rapidly.'—*N. E. Farmer.*

A Vermont paper contains the followin statement of the amount of Sheep in tha State:—

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|---|---|---|
| Bennington | county | 25,416 |
| Windham | do. | 55,542 |
| Rutland | do. | 139,396 |
| Windsor | do. | 109,787 |
| Addison | do. | 112,784 |
| Orange | do. | 78,155 |
| Chittenden | do. | 55,449 |
| Washington | do. | 40,356 |
| Caledonia | do. | 43,648 |
| Franklin | do. | 91,638 |
| Orleans | do. | 23,797 |
| Essex | do. | 6,976 |
| Grand Isle | do. | 8,656 |

The thermometer of Newport, R. I. stood at 9° below zero on the 8th inst.

## COMMUNICATIONS

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

### ON THE MEANS OF INDUCING FERTILITY IN FRUIT TREES.

[From Lindley's "*Guide to the Orchard and Kitchen Garden.*"]

Some fruits of excellent quality are bad bearers: this defect is remedied by a variety of different methods, such as. 1. *By ringing the bark*; 2. *by bending branches downwards*; 3. *by training*; *and* 4. *by the use of different kinds of stocks.(a)* All these practices are intended to produce exactly the same effect by different ways. Physiologists know that whatever tends to cause a rapid diffusion of sap and secretions of any plant, causes also the formation of leaf buds instead of flower buds; and that whatever, on the contrary tends to cause an accumulation of sap and secretions, has the effect of producing flower buds in abundunce.(*b*) This circumstance, which at first sight seems to be difficult to account for physiologically, is no doubt to be explained in the difference between leaf buds and fruit buds themselves. In a leaf bud, all the appendages or leaves are in a high state of development, and the central part or axis, around which they are arranged, has a tendency to extend itself in the form of a branch as soon as the necessary stimulus has been communicated to the system, by the light and warmth of spring. In a flower bud, the appendages or leaves are in that imperfectly formed, contracted state, which we name calyx, corolla, stamens and pistilla; and the central part around which they are arranged, has no tendency to elongate under the influence of the usual stimulus. Hence, a flower bud, or a flower, is nothing but a contracted branch; as is proved by the occasional elongation of the axis in flowers that expand during unusually hot damp weather late in the spring, becoming branches, bearing sepals and petals instead of leaves. It is, therefore, easily to be understood why, so long as all the motions and secretions of a tree go on rapidly, with vigor, and without interruption, only rudiments of branches, or leaf buds, should be formed; and why, on the other hand, when the former become languid, and the parts are formed slowly, bodies of a contracted nature, with no disposition to extension (or flower buds) should appear.

It will be found that the process of the practices above enumerated, to which the gardener has recourse, in order to increase the fertility of his fruit trees, is to be explained by what has just been said. In *ringing* fruit trees, a cylinder of bark is cut from the branch, by which means a return of the elaborated juices from the leaves down the bark is cut off, and all that would have been expended below the annular incision is confined to the branch above it. This produces an accumulation of proper juice: and flower buds or fertility, are the result. (*c*) But there is a defect in this practice, to which want of success in many cases is no doubt to be attributed. Although the returning fluid is found to accumulate above the annular incision, yet the ascending sap flows along the alburnum into the buds with nearly as much rapidity as ever, so that the accumulation is but imperfectly produced.—On this account, the second practice, of *bending branches downward*, is found to be attended with more certain consequences.—The effect of turning the branches of a tree from their natural position, to a pendulous or a horizontal one, is to impede both the ascent and descent of fluids, in a gradual but certain manner. The tissue of which branches is composed is certainly permeable to fluids in every direction; and there can be no doubt that the vital action of the vessels of a plant is performed both in the natural and in an inverted position. So long as that erect direction of the branches which is natural to them is exactly maintained, the flow of their fluids, being subject to no interruptions, will take place in the freest possible manner; but the moment this natural direction is deviated from, the vessels become more or less compressed, their action is impeded, and finally, if the inversion is perfect, it becomes so slow that an accumulation of the profuse juices necessarily takes place through every part of the system.(*d*)

One of the objects of *training* is to produce the same effect. Branches are bent more or less from their natural erect position; their motion, in consequence of the action of wind upon them, which is known to facilitate the movement of the fluids, is totally destroyed; and hence arises the accumulation of proper juice which is necessary to their fertility. Nor is the *influence of the stock* of an essentially different nature. In proportion as the scion and stock approach each other closely in constitution, the less effect is produced by the latter; and, on the contrary, in proportion to the constitutional difference between the stock and scion, is the effect of the former important.—Thus, when pears are grafted or budded on the weld species, apples upon crabs, plums upon plums, and peaches upon peaches or almonds, the scion is, in regard to fertility, exactly in the same state as if it had not been grafted at all. While, on the other hand, a great increase of fertility is the result of grafting pears upon quinces peaches upon plums, apples upon white thorn, and the like. In these latter cases, the food absorbed from the earth by the root of the stock, is communicated slowly and unwillingly to the scion: under no circumstances is the communication between the one and the other as free and perfect as if their natures had been more nearly the same; the sap is impeded in its ascent, and the proper juices are impeded in their descent, whence arises that accumulation of secretion which is sure to be attended by increased fertility. No other influence than this can be exercised by the scion upon the stock. Those who fancy that the contrary takes place—that the quince, for instance, communicates some portion of its austerity to the pear, can scarcely have considered the question physiologically, or they would have seen that the whole of the food communicated from the alburnum of the quince to that of the pear, is in nearly the same state as when it entered the roots of the former. Whatever elaboration it undergoes must take place in the foliage of the pear; where, far from the influence of the quince, secretions natural to the variety go on with no more interruption than if the quince formed no part of the system of the individual.(*e*)

(*a*) Transplanting, and diminishing the system of roots, have also, by lessening the flow of sap, a tendency to induce fruit buds. A sizeable tree often shows blossoms the second year after being transplanted, though subsequently it may not bear for some years. J. B.

(*b*) Knight's opinion in regard to the formation of wood and fruit buds, is this: That the natural efforts of the mother tree are directed, 1. to the nourishment and perfection of her progeny, the fruit; 2. to the production of new wood buds, essential to the elaboration of food the coming year; and (these labors being finished) 3. to the production of fruit buds for another crop. But as our seasons do not afford time to perfect all these labors, it happens that many varieties, particularly those which produce great crops, and carry their fruit late, produce fruit only every other year; and hence, too, varieties brought from a higher latitude, where the seasons are longer, as the Siberian crab, and the process of vegetable development more rapid, become in warmer climates, annual bearers. The varieties that ripen their fruits early, as most of the cherries, plums, &c. produce fruit every year; except that when the crop is heavy, a barren year, and often the death of the tree succeeds. J. B.

(*c*) I dislike this method. It is robbing one part of the tree of its food to pamper a pet branch. Several branches of the plum, experimented upon, died the following year; and branches of the apple broke off with the weight of fruit. J. B.

(*d*) These axioms in vegetable physiology will find a confirmation in our orchards and gardens. The pendulous and horizontal branches will be found to abound most in blossoms, and others much in the ratio of their departure from an upright position—those growing erect producing the last. Hence a crooked tree (particularly the apple) bears better than a straight tree; and a flat spreading top is more beautiful than a tall pyramidical one. Hence too the practice of nurserymen, of removing the centre shoot of the apple, when it has attained a sufficient height to form a head. J. B.

(*e*) In the cultivation of the pear in the London and Edinburgh Horticultural Gardens, advantage is taken of both of these last methods, for a threefold purpose, of inducing precosity and fruitfulness, and of saving ground. Such of this fruit as takes freely, is worked upon the quince, and trained *en quenoille*, that is, the branches, which are suffered to grow low, are thinned out, and those left bent down so as to assume the form of a distaff, and there fastened. Trained in this way trees are planted four feet apart; and the product of a given area of ground is said to be greater, from dwarfs, in this way, than from standards, at the usual distance of planting.

After all, it would seem to be a law of nature, that the food of the young plant, as well as of the young animal, shall go exclusively to enlarge and develope the individual, until it has attained to natural puberty, and that the contrivances of art to counteract this law, in inducing precosity, or unnatural fruitfulness, shortens the period of their existence. This also seems to be the tendency of very high feeding and very rich manuring. Temperance is as essential to the vegetable as the animal. The great art of managing plants is to conform them to their natural soil, temperature and habits. The practice which I would urge, from the consideration of the preceding facts, is, that men should plant both dwarf and standard trees—the first for themselves and the last for their posterity. J. B.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

## WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY.

I had just purchased *Webster's American Dictionary abridged*, price six dollars, when I took up a newspaper which referred to some strictures on this work, made separately by A. B. Johnson and Lyman Cobb. The latter, who is well known as the author of a spelling book, directed the weight of his objections against Webster's orthography; and the former, against the introduction of so many words which are not found in Johnson's Dictionary,—insisting that one of Dr. Johnson's great objects was to exclude all unnecessary and improper words, and by so doing to render our language more classical and pure.

I laid down the newspaper,—*felt* that I had been too hasty in making the purchase,—and wished that the Dictionary was again on the bookseller's shelf, and that the six dollars were safe in my pocket-book. It was too late, however; and I brought my *bargain* home, endeavoring to encourage myself with the hope that the DEFINITIONS which must be better adapted to the present state of the language than those of former lexicographers, might atone in some measure for the *barbarisms*.

On reaching home, I was presented, from a scrap book, with the following article: "*Orthography*. A writer in the Cattskill Recorder has been at considerable pains to make up the following paragraph, to exhibit Mr. Webster's style of spelling. He states it to be in strict accordance with the spelling of the QUARTO edition:

"The *suveran* remedy for unpopularity is to *cloke* your own errors; and if you *procede steddy*, and *inlist* the admirers of *pretense* you may make even a *nusance* tolerable. A traveller when he wishes to *succede* with the ignorant, makes his *tung* fly like a *fether*, and an *encyclopedy* is like a *skain* of twist to him. He will tell you that in his last *cruse*, he came near a *catastrophy* from a Turkish cutlas; that he has killed *ranedeer* in Nova Zembla ———; that he saw a *chimist* in New Holland who could cure the *toothake* by the touch of his *thum*; that the *highth* of the mountains in Switzerland set his head *aking* by looking at them from a *clif* in France; that the Turks lead their horses by a *ribin* when they go to a *mosk*; and that the bridgegroom is fastened to his bride by a thong of *lether* in certain other countries. He will praise the Chinese *tarif*, and compare the mandarin to our *sherif*. He will let out such a *sluse* of words upon you as to *benum* your senses. His clack is like a *plow* that overturns all your attempts to reply, and you can get no *furlow* from his service; even if you have the *headake* to kill, not a *crum* of comfort can you get from him."

This was bad enough; but the Irish say, "Fair play is a jewel," and I determined to examine for myself. On turning to the Dictionary, I found those objectionable words arranged in the OCTAVO edition as follows:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| sovereign } suveran } | proceed } procede } | steady } steddy } | nuisance } nusance } | succeed } succede } |
| feather } fether } | catastrophe } catastrophy } | chimist } chemist } | thumb } thum } | ribbon } ribin } |
| height } hight } highth } | also highth } hight } | mosk } mosque } | leather } lether } | tariff } tarif } |
| sheriff } sherif } | benum, corruptly } benumb } | plough } plow } | | |

In the above cases, the alteration proposed is modestly placed below the word as it is commonly spelled, and occurs in no other place, so that no inconvenience can accrue to the reader. Yet we are not told that this position of a word *always* marks his preference, and it is likely that *plow* is one exception.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| inlist } enlist } | both given separately | skain, *Webster* } skein, *Walker* } | |
| reindeer } ranedeer } | and ranedeer separately | pretense, *Webster* } pretence, *Walker* } | |
| cutlas, *Webster* } cutlass, *Walker* } | cruse is not found in that sense. | clif is not found. | |
| encyclopedia or encyclopedy } | sluice } sluse } | occurs } twice } | furlough } furlow } | ocr tw |
| crum, *Webster* | tongue | tung also occurs separately. | |
| crum } crumb } | *Walker* | tung } ake is preferred to ache but *toothake* is not found. | |

The Cattskill writer by suppressing a part of the circumstances is therefore, *an unfair witness*; unless indeed, the arrangement and orthography of these words, differ in the quarto edition, which is not now before me. It must be remarked however that Webster prefers both "mosque" and "chemical" to the other forms of these words with which he has been charged.

It is also to be noticed that Webster has not been betrayed into the *proposed* alterations,* by a desire to write these words as they are pronounced, and thus destroy all the etymological landmarks of the language,—but to correct those departures from the true spelling of the primitive words which were made in more modern but barbarous ages, when every pedant was ambitious to fortify his writing by a redundancy of letters. Many instances of this kind might be given in addition to the words already introduced; but perhaps none is more remarkable than the old spelling of woodruff, *woodde-rowffe*, or the modern spelling of '*tongue*.' The following etymologies are from the Dictionary under review:

procede from the Latin procedo
steddy – Saxon stedig
pretense – Latin prætensus—☞ Within the last century *expence* has been changed to *expense*, from the Latin expensum.
succede from the Latin succedo
tarif – French tarif
sluse – Danish sluse
tung – Saxon tung
fether – Saxon fether
skain – French escaigne
cutlas – French coutelas
thum – Saxon thuma
ribin – Welsh rhibin
lether – Saxon lether
benum – Saxon benumen
crum – Saxon cruma

Numerous as are the words† which this Dictionary contains, I observe some omissions which ought to be supplied. For *oviposition* and *ovipositing* I give SAY, and KIRBY and SPENCE as authorities; and for *spathose* PHILLIPS and CLEAVELAND—but I have had little time to search for omissions.

*Massacer* has been proposed instead of *Massacre*. I dislike this innovation, and every other that requires *c* followed by *e* to sound like *k*. *Cyanite* pronounced *kyanite*, is a modern barbarism, however, which Webster has not followed.

The best thing I can say of the claim preferred by A. B. Johnson in favor of his *namesake*, is that it is *singular*. From a Dictionary we want the definitions of *such words as are used*, whether classical or not; and that author who would refer to Johnson's Dictionary rather than to the Rambler or Idler to learn whether a word might be admitted into elegant composition, had better burn his pen and spill his ink. Some of the vilest writings of the present day may be found *word by word* in Johnson's Dictionary; and in it may also be found several words which no *gentleman* would dare to use in the company of *gentlemen*.

On the whole I am well pleased with Webster's (and Worcester's) Dictionary, and am fully and entirely satisfied that my six dollars were well laid out. Yet I am not *prejudiced* in favor of Noah Webster. He has shown a *want of taste* in introducing his strictures on the late Lindley Murray into his square to edition, and as *the charges are utterly unfounded*, I regret that so enduring a record of them has been made. Apart from such small matters however, Noah Webster is a great man; and he will be known to posterity as a bright ornament of his age and country.

A FARMER.

* With some exceptions such as nusance from the French nuisance, pictoresk from the French pittoresque, &c

† About *sixteen thousand* more than in any other. It also contains between *thirty and forty thousand* definitions not found in any similar work. One example of the nature of these may be given: "*Mill*. An engine or fabrick in which corn is ground, or any other body is *comminuted*." Walker's Dictionary. It will be perceived that this definition (taken from Johnson) is very imperfect, for it will not include a saw-mill, slittingmill, a hemp mill, a fulling mill, and several others. Webster gives the following; "*Mill*. 1. A complicared engine or machine for grinding and reducing to fine particles grain, fruit, or other substance, or for performing *other operations* by means of wheels and a circular motion..... 2. The house or building that contains the machinery for grinding, &c.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

## THE MILITIA.

MR. EDITOR—I have noticed several elaborate attempts by a writer in your paper, to induce a belief, that the abolition of our Militia System, is necessary and proper. His theory and arguments are plausible; but facts, stubborn facts, are worth all the theories in the Universe. The history of all nations, and especially of Republics, prove, that whenever the great body of the people have ever considered it too burthensome to cultivate military discipline, keep arms in their hands, and know how to use them, their liberties have soon been lost.

The Greeks and Romans were convinced by their demagogues, that it was an unnecessary waste of time, and too toilsome to go on with the martial exercises of their ancestors; and the consequence has been, that the Greeks have groaned under the bondage of the Turks for four hundred years, and the other were overrun and nearly exterminated by hordes of barbarians.

It is easy to convince the unreflecting in time of peace, that no danger is near, and that it is unnecessary to guard against anarchy, insurrections, usurpation, or foreign aggression. So, in those ancient republics, danger from those sources in the heighth of their prosperity appeared more remote than it now does to us; yet the false theories of sophists and religious enthusiasts were not listened to, till centuries after the establishment of those Republics. But here, in about half a century since the foundation of our Republic, we find men, who from their language and writings ought to know better, endeavoring to persuade the people to lay aside their arms, or what is the same thing, render our Militia system less efficient than what it now is.

Officers of experience, of from twenty to thirty years, who met at the military convention at Utica, last winter, allege that any less service than now exists, would prove the utter destruction of the militia system. Yet we see daily attempts in the papers, to induce a more lax system than the present, and to convince us that all that is necessary is to have arms, and that company and regimental trainings are useless. It is easy to cut down a valuable fruit tree that our ancestors have planted for us, but it may take an age to substitut , rear and bring to maturity one as good in its place. It is easier to extinguish a martial spirit and habits, than to excite them after they are abandoned. Look at the miserable, degenerate Italians, and the poor, oppressed, ignorant, and distracted state of the Greeks, and we may well sigh, "How are the mighty fallen!!" No considerate man, who views their condition, and has any regard for the future character and condition of his country, would be willing to intermit any precaution, nor begrudge two days' service for a few years, in keeping up a military spirit and organization among the people. Break down this system, and in a few years you must have a large standing army to support, and the expense to each man would be greater, than to take his present term of duty. To most who perform it, the duties of a citizen soldier are not considered burthensome;—they are considered as manly recreations from labor, and the ordinary business of life. And as the people must have some amusements, public meetings and military exercises and displays, are assuredly more repub-

lican, more cheap and useful, than horse races, bull fights, festivals and shows, &c.. that are substituted in monarchies as recreations from the labor of their masters No, the intelligent American militiaman despises the proffered aid of those who have done little or no duty, and who are so ready with their help to rid him of it. He knows that if he parts with the organization and physical ability to assert his rights, they would like many other nations, soon vanish as a shadow. He has seen his brethren in arms at Platsburg, at Erie, at Baltimore, New Orleans, and other places, save our regular armies, and preserve the character of our country, in repelling a foreign foe. He has read of the spirit displayed by our militia in the Revolutionary war, at Bunker hill, at Bennington, at Saratoga, and throughout that momentous struggle. He has lately witnessed the desolating effects of a few regulars led by unprincipled officers among the South American Republics, when they had no organized militia to check their career, or preserve the liberties of the people. He has admired the wisdom of the French Liberals, who by an organization of the militia or National Guard, have saved that fine country from the horrors which the enemies of all order as heretofore, would have involved it. And he would advise all those who think our militia system too burthensome, instead of endeavoring to undermine this pillar which our ancestors have placed for the support of our Liberties, to quit this for some other country where they have no such burthens to bear. A MILITIAMAN.

## SELECTIONS.

From the New Yorrk Farmer.

### THE COUNTRY FARMER—NO. XII.

*On the choice of suitable Land for Farming.*

Mr. Fleet—The remark will, at first view, strike most persons as a kind of contradiction in terms, that the very richest land, is not that on which Farmers have the best success, and yet nothing is more certain. The first quality of land, is generally considered to be river alluvion; next to this, the richest upland, such as a fat and tenacious loam; then a sandy loam, or sand and clay; and finally a dry gravel. Of all these descriptions of soil, 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th, the last is that on which we generally find the best Farmers, not only, but the most successful Farming I have traversed most parts of the United States, from Maine to North Carolina, and between the great western Lakes and the Atlantic, and have every where seen proof of the correctness of these remarks. The first choice of land in the settlement of every new country, taking the qualities as designated above, is always in the numerical order, as they stand; and the 4th, after some 20 to 50 years, always becomes, except in some very rare cases of river alluvion, the first, and the whole order is reversed! There may be particular exceptions, but as a general remark, the above observations will be found, on the strictest examination, to be sanctioned by general facts. Such was the case, in the early history of the settlement of this continent, such it has been, in every part of the country, and such it still is, as settlements advance, every where. One generation succeeds another, he second invariably adopting different views from the first, if continuing to reside on the same land; and yet all others, all of those who are uninstructed by personal experience and observation, or very nearly all, advance to the wilds with the old fashioned errors of opinion! Were we to omit taking into consideration the grounds of this mistake, the general perseverance in it, would seem to imply a strange want of prudent foresight, or even a want of common understanding. Let us examine this matter a little, for it is one of very general importance.

Lands in a state of nature, wild lands, to which so large a proportion of the young men resort, for future Farms, if clothed with timber, forest trees, present very delusive appearances, such, xactly, as would be likely to mislead the judgment. Excepting only the river alluvion, universally sought as of the first quality, almost without looking at the soil, the three other qualities are found, the second and third, covered with a thick deposite of vegetable matter, leaves, partly decayed, '*soft as an under bed*,' '*black as my shoe*.' Such is the surface. On tearing up some handfuls of the ground, this is well blackened of course, and little is thought of looking for the sub-soil, as those invariably do, who have once been deceived by black muck, and these soft beds of leaves. Brooks are plenty, in such woods though they will be scarce, on the same land, when opened to the sun, and the blankets and bed of leaves are removed, so as to dry the surface of the ground.

On the 4th quality of land, the dry and warm gravel, there is none of this great store of slowly rotting leaves, because they rot rapidly, and fires often burn them up, the land being dry; and brooks, and springs, are even more scarce than they will be when the woods are destroyed. The ground, having its surface uncovered, and the woods generally more open, presents an appearance of nakedness, especially after having passed over black muck lands, shrouded in leaves. With on allowance for the far greater frequency of fires, to burn off the leaves, and to destroy much of the growth of wood, keeping the woods more open, *this* land is condemned for barrenness, and the land of *muck* is chosen, all blanketed and carpeted with leaves. We may, on reading this, admitting it to be a true and faithful outline or delineation, all agree that we would act more wisely, and yet 99 in a hundred of us, uninstructed by experience, would probably choose the carpeted land, as 99 in a hundred have done before, in all parts of the United States. I would not, and did not, but my Father did, much to his regret, and I had the benefit of his experience, as well as my own, having been born and bred on one of those carpeted Farms.

Land, that is cold and wet, may bear immense growths of trees, as of the elm, ash, basswood, birch, beach, maple and hemlock; and having a very thick shade, the ground will be cold, and wet, and the leaves must, of course, decay very slowly. Hence the carpeting, which is invariably, a sure indication of either cold, or wet land, or of both. If of both, it never will make a farm for grain: and grass, for pasture, and for hay, which grows on such land, is always very inferior in richness, to that grown on land that is warm and dry. The difference is very great. The most nutritious grass, grows only where the land is so dry, and warm, that it must be sown frequently with seed, in order to keep up the sward. This is what I call a *medium soil*, good, alike for grass and grain, on which I should no more expect crops of grass, except from seed, than of grain. One acre of such ground, in pasture, or meadow, will keep as much stock as one and a half, or even two, or three, of your black muck cold and wet grass land. The appearance, to be sure, in pasture, will be very different. The grass may be very long, in your wet, cold land pasture, but very poor feed; in the other, it will be far more nutritious, short and sweet, like a well told story.

With land that is dry and warm, the good Husbandman, may always succeed in getting good crops. He may even make the soil as fertile as that of the very richest of land, and far more sure in its crops. Good Husbandry, constantly enriches the soil. But it is almost impossible to do this, with land naturally cold, and wet. It has not warmth enough, of temperament, to be sensitive to kind treatment, but is like some men, so phlegmatic as to offer no principle of life to act upon. Heat, and cold, are always antipodes. You can never, by the utmost kindness, overcome natural antipathies.—The very cause of the muck, which misleads so many in the choice of lands, is a natural coldness in the soil, where leaves are *preserved from decay*, by cold, and by wet, not moisture, but an excess of wetness. Such lands, when cleared, will produce grain crops, while the muck lasts, and is rotting by the power of the sun, but is sterile, ever afterwards, unless covered with a new soil, made artificially and at more expense than the cost of warm and good land. This can be effected by trench-ploughing, underdraining, quick lime as a manure, bringing up the hard pan, almost always the only subsoil of mucky lands, but the cost is too great for any thing but experiment, and on a small scale. It will be done, when lands, from being scarce, shall be worth 50 dollars an acre, but that time is far distant.

This is a long story, Mr. Editor, as it will seem to those of your readers, if any such there be, who take no interest in knowing how to appreciate the different qua ities of land, for Farming. I venture to say, however, that no topic yet embraced in these papers, is of more general interest, to your Agricultural and Horticultural readers, and that none of the Nos. will be more extensively and attentively read by them, particularly the Farmers, than this and the three next, which I mean to devote to the same subject.

I shall not attempt to speak of soils of all descriptions, land of every quality, but dwell principally on the two leading characteristics, of *cold and wet land*, underlaid by *hardpan*; and *warm and dry land*, properly the *medium soils*, however constituted closing with some observations on good grazing and meadow land, for dairy and stock Farms.

*Sept.* 16, 1831.

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From the New-England Farmer.

### MR. COBB'S MANUAL.

We have been favored with a small treatise entitled '*A Manual containing information respecting the growth of the Mulberry Tree, with suituble directions for the culture of silk, in three parts. By J. H. Cobb. A. M. Published by direction of his excellency* Gov. Lincoln, *agreeably to a resolve of the Commonwealth. Ostendens hujus muneris*

*usum. Vida in Bombyx.* Boston. *Carter, Hend e and Babcock.*

This Treatise is introduced by an able report of a Committee of the Massachusetts Legislature, of which Mr. Abel Wheeler was Chairman (published in N. E. Farmer, vol. ix. page 262) and a resolve 'That his excellency the Governor be requested to cause to be compiled and printed a concise MANUAL to contai the best information respecting the growth of the MULBERRY TREE, with suitable directions for the culture of SILK, and that this manual be distributed in suitable numbers in the city of Boston, and to every town in the Commonwealth.—That to defray the expense thus incurred he be authorized to draw his warrant on the treasury for a sum not exceeding six hundred dollars.'

The importance of the silk culture in a national point of view, as well as a useful and profitable pursuit of individual industry, is now so well, and so universally appreciated, that remarks on this head would be superfluous. We shall, therefore, confine ourselves to the indications of the claims of the treatise before us to confidence and patronage.

The author remarks in his preface that 'In preparing this manual he has been guided by the personal experience which he has had for several years in the culture of the mulberry tree, and rearing of silk worms in the state of Massachusetts.' He also gives a list of the works which he has made use of in c mpiling his manual, and subjoins the recommendation of Mr. Peter S. Du Ponceau, and Dr. Felix Pascalis. Mr. Du Ponceau observes that 'the works of foreign writers on the cultivation of mulberry trees and raising of silk worms, particularly in the latter, are by no means suited to the meridian of this country, and are rath r calculated to discourage than instruct our farmers. You have with great propriety discarded their artificial heat, thermometers, barometers, hygrometers, and all these variety of troublesome methods, minute regulations and useless implements, which make the culture of silk a difficult and intricate science. I see no more difficulty in cultivating the mulberry than any other fruit tree: and the art of raising silk worms seems to reduce itself to a few simple rules easy of observance.—I know but of one European author who has had the courage to break through the fetters of habit and prejudice; and in a late work on the culture of silk, published in the German language at Vienna in 1829, adopted what I call the *American System*, the same which your manual recommends, and which in fact has been followed in this country for more than 70 years. The author is the Chevalier Von Heint, an Austrian nobleman, the owner of large estates in the imperial dominions. He appears to have completely succeeded by following this simple American method, and he even ventured to raise silk worms on mulberry trees in the open air on the frontiers of Hungary, 44 deg. N. Lat.; and he assures us that he met with the same success.'

Dr. Pascalis observes 'I have read the work of Mr. Jonathan H. Cobb on the culture of silk, which is intended by him as a popular manual of instruction, and have been much pleased to find that it unites brevity with all the most important precepts required, in that valuable branch of domestic produce. It is also clear and lucid, and free of all unnecessary details little to be called for within the short period of time necessary to make a silk crop. It is evident that Mr. Cobb has been for many years a practical culturist, and could also embrace the interesting cares of the filature, even farther than that of making marketable raw silk, which is not frequently attended to by the growers.' * * *

'I conclude with observing that the work of Mr. Jonathan H. Cobb deserves the confidnce of the public, and its circulation should be encouraged.

## ON RAISING GRAIN ON LIGHT SOILS.

*Easton Pa. Nov. 8, 1831.*

MR. SMITH:—A correspondent in your last "Farmer" wishes to be informed whether any thing has been done at raising grain on light sandy soils manured with marsh mud, plaster of Paris, or lime, and if so wishes a detail, &c. with the results. I will give him what has come under my observation. Some years since I bought a lot of land which contained 14 or 15 acres of river bottom of very light sandy soil—the rest upland, which was stony. The bottom being easier farmed, had been completely worn out by the tenants, who, under the former owner, had used it for years without any manure. The first year of my owning it I tried a part with 50 bushels of lime to the acre, put on in the spring after breaking it up for corn—it produced a good crop of corn and subsequently one of the best crops of winter grain in the township; it was then sown with clover and timothy, and plastered, (i. e. sown with ground gypsum) and produced me two tons of hay to the acre; I continued the same course of treatment on the whole flat, with equal success, adding to the lime as much stable manure as we had made on the lot. it may be proper to say that perhaps previous to my owning it, the lot had never had a bushel of plaster sown on it, and perhaps never had been limed or manured to any extent, and that when broken up after I got it, I caused it to be ploughed very deep; deep ploughing answers very well except on stiff clay soils. The crops of this part of the world have been greatly improved within the last ten or fifteen years by the use of lime as a manure. For a time after the introduction of gypsum, many of our farmers relied on it, and clover alone; other manures were neglected, and although much good was done by the introduction of clover, yet the process of cropping exhausted the land, and gypsum, which I believe is only a *stimulus*, ceased to produce any beneficial effects on the lands. Recourse was then had to lime; that has been successfully continued ever since, and our millers inform me that the result has been an increase of at least 50 per cent. in the quantity of grain produced in the same district of country. Lime, I believe, operates as a manure by its caustic properties neutralizing the acids in the soil. I have also observed, when several years have elapsed without the application of gypsum, that on renewing it its effects are again very manifest, especially in the grass crops. In the little farming I have recently done I have combined the application of stable manure and lime, and when I manure, I do it in earnest and it pays well. On an out lot of five acres near this borough, which had been suffered to become exhausted because the former owner said *he could not afford to buy lime and manure*, he was unable to raise wheat, and the grass crop was very indifferent. I broke it up early in the summer—put on it 250 bushels of lime, and 44 horses loads of manure, gave it three ploughings and sowed white wheat. The next season I got 31 bushels of wheat to the acre; I sowed clover and timothy among the wheat. I sold the crop of grass *standing* the next season for $40, and got $10 for the fall pasturage; this year I made upwards of ten tons of hay off it, and have again gotten $10 for the fall pasturage.

The effect of lime is visible for a greater or less length of time according to the nature of the soil. I have seen it distinctly visible twelve years after it had been applied.

In this country it is generally put on after the land is ploughed, and then harrowed and ploughed in. If the season be not too dry its beneficial effects will be visible in the summer crop following its application in the spring. But if land be limed for the summer crop and a dry summer succeed, it sometimes injures that crop that season, although its beneficial effects will be seen the next and succeeding years; lime never is fully felt in its effects until a winter has passed after its application. On poor or thin land I think an application of the lime on the surface or sod in the fall the most advisable; spread it and let it lie till spring. I think any land will bear 40 bushels to the acre thus applied, and that the difference of the corn crop the next season will nearly if not quite pay the price of the lime, if it can be procured at a reasonable price.—*Am. Farmer.*

*Strange Affection.*—A foxhound bitch the property of Mr. A. Thornton, of Caroline county, Va. was in, last spring, at the death of a she-fox. Soon after, she was found baying at a hollow tree, which being cut open, was found to have been the den of the she-fox, and to contain seven fox whelps, quite young. On being taken out, the hound bitch coiled herself about them, and eagerly gave them suck. Her own pups were put with a foster mother, and she, with maternal care, nursed the young foxes, on the farm, where there were several other dogs, and where they remained unmolested, until fit to wean. They were then put in the neighboring wood, but persisted in returning occasionally to the homestead, where, true to their nature, they depredated on the poultry yard until it became necessary to destroy them. Many are the morals that might be drawn from this incident, which is no *fable*. No virtue more beautiful than offering shelter to the fatherless—the more striking, when exercised in despite of country and family prejudices. But the conduct of the fox shows how far beyond the force of education is that of nature! Is it not so with some animals that are not *ferœ naturæ?*—*American Turf Reg.*

On Friday evening last, a colored woman, by the name of Eliza Freeman, was committed to jail in Mount Holly, N. J. on a charge or murdering her husband, David Freeman, the preceding night, by cutting his throat with a razor

*Lower Canda.*—The census of Lower Canada shows a population of near 500,000 souls.

From the Alabama Intelligencer.

*Alabama Madeira Wine, &c.*—We acknowledge the receipt from our esteemed and enterprising fellow-citizen, Mr. Cornelle Roudet, of three bottles of Wine, two of last year's vintage, and one of the present; and also, of some choice and valuable specimens of fruits, such as Pears, Pomegranates, & Quinces, products of his vineyard, in Green county. The wine, which is designated the *Alabama Maderia*, is pronounced by good judges to be of an excellent quality, and only requires age to render its flavor equal to the choicest imported Maderia. In making this wine, Mr. R. informs us, he found it necessary to depart in some measure from the established European theory; but the process has been obtained from repeated practical experiments, calculated for, and adapted to, the grapes of our own climates.

Much doubt has been entertained, whether the pear and apple could be brought to any degre of perfection in a southern latitude; and at the commencement of the undertaking, doubts were entertained by Mr. R. himself of their ultimate success. He was of opinion that the fruit would be *stony*, and the peal of a rough and coarse nature; but his experiments have furnished incontestible evidence that with proper management they may be brought to the highest degree of perfection. They are of the species known as the fall bergamot, the product of the third year since the trees were planted. In point of size (some being twelve inches in circumference) they far surpass the European growth, or those of the Northern States in our own country; and it is said the climate and soil of Alabama is so well adapted to their own growth, that the quality of the fruit has been greatly improved. We learn from Mr. Roudet that he has at present thirty different kinds of the pear in a high state of cultivation; among which are the one above described, the Butter Pear, the Rosselin, Seckel, &c. The Pomegranates are supposed to be equal to those of the West Indies and Spain. The quinces are very fine and large, measuring 13 inches in circumference.

It is a well known fact that the soil and climate of our State is peculiarly adapted to the production of almost every thing which can contribute to the wants of man. Not only the comforts, but the luxuries of life can be obtained in the richest profusion by bestowing a little attention to their culture; and we are confident that, if the impulse were once given, instead of a continued prospect of wide spread cotton fields, we should then behold the scene interspersed and enlivened with beautiful vineyards and orchards.

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*Second crop of Apples and third crop of Blossoms!*—We have before us a second crop of Apples and a third crop of Blossoms, taken from an Apple Tree in Cumberland, R. I. on land formerly belonging to Stephen Cook of Mendon, Mass. The tree after bearing and bringing to maturity one crop, blossomed the second time, during the second week in September, as full as trees generally do in the Spring. Some of the Apples when the frost checked their growth measured over three inches in circumference, but they are generally of the size of full grown crab apples. What is still more remarkable is, that the tree blossomed for the *third time* about the second week in November. Some of the last crop of blossoms were brought into this office.—The apples and blossoms were brought to this town by David Aldrich, Esq. of Cumberland who offers to produce evidence of the truth of the above. Josiah F. Fish, Esq. of Wrentham, collected some of the apples and blossoms, and a number of otheas have evidence of the fact. The apples were the common pearmain.—*R. I. Amer.*

[From the Juvenile Forget Me Not.]

EVENING PRAYER—A GIRL PRAYING.

Alone, alone!—no other face
Wears kindred smile, or kindred line;
And yet they say my mother's eyes—
They say my father's brow is mine:
And either had rejoiced to see
The other's likeness in my face;
But now it is a stranger's eye
That finds some long-forgotten trace,

I heard them name my father's death,
His home and tomb alike the wave;
And I was early taught to weep
Beside my youthful mother's grave.
I wish I could recall one look—
But only one familiar tone:
If I had aught of memory,
I should not feel so all alone.

My heart is gone beyond the grave,
In search of love I cannot find,
Till I could fancy soothing words
Are whispered by the evening wind.
I gaze upon the watching stars,
So clear, so beautiful above,
Till I could dream they looked on me
With something of an answering love.

My mother, does thy gentle eye
Look from those distant stars on me?
Or does the wind at evening bear
A message to thy child from thee?
Dost thou pine for me, as I pine
Again a parent's love to share?
I often kneel beside thy grave,
And pray to be a sleeper there.

The vesper bell!—'tis eventide;
I will not weep, but I will pray—
God of the fatherless, 'tis Thou
Alone can be the orphan's stay!
Earth's meanest flower, Heaven's mightiest star,
Are equal in their Maker's love,
And I can say, Thy will be done,
With eyes that fix their hope above.

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An Indiana Editor says, that radishes have been left at his office *somewhat larger than a man's leg*. We wonder how large the Editor's leg can be. We presume him to be a relative of the gentleman, to whom a pedlar once offered a couple of *candlemoulds* to serve him as a pair of *boots*. —*Louisville Journal.*

*PATENT ZINC HOLLOW-WARE,*

MANUFACTURED by John Westfield & Co., No. 163, Mott street, New-York.

ROSSITER & KNOX, No. 3, Buffalo street, Rochester, having been appointed agents for the sale of the above ware, are now receiving an additional supply, which they offer for sale at the manufacturers' price.

This ware will be found not materially to exceed in price Tin and Iron; yet as durable as Iron, not subject to rust, giving the article cooked or kept in it no unpleasant taste, not containing in itself, nor forming with the materials cooked in it, any deleterious properities, as do Copper, Brass or Lead.

Zinc Kettles, for cooking Rice, Hominy, and all kinds Sweet Meats, will be found well adapted, neither discoloring, nor varying the flavor of the substance cooked; for these purposes, and to avoid the corrosions of Copper, Brass and Lead, it will long be substituted for these metals.

Zinc Pans for the Dairy, will be found an object worthy of attention from the following considerations; that Milk in Zinc Pans of the same size, will produce from 20 to 25 per cent more cream or butter, and that of superior flavor; will keep milk sweet longer by a number of hours, affording the cream more time, besides its chymical effect, to separate from the milk, (for this reason, cream from those pans will not admit of being churned as soon as that from other pans, in as much as no cream should be churned till it is soured,) and greatly outlast any pans in use

Zinc Jars and Firkins for preserving butter sweet for family use, possess equally superior advantage for butter, as do the pans for milk. Experiment and results safely warrant the above statement; and the orders of wholesale and retailing merchants as well as those of families and large dairies daily supplying from different parts of the country, are the consequence of successful results in the use of this ware.

Zinc ware is cleansed with Brick Dust, with Soap and Sand, or with Hot Ashes.

NOTICE.—Letters patent for manufactnring these articles exclusively by the subscribers, having been obtained, we would advise the Public against any encroachment of the Patent Right;—and the person who shall give information of any violation of this Patent Right, will be liberally rewarded, by JOHN WESTFIELD & CO

*The following recommendation from thespro prietor of one of the largest houses of Ref reh ment in the United States, must be perfectly satisfactory as respects the utility and advantage of using the Zinc Hollow Ware*

To J. Westfield & Co.

*Gentlemen, I have for some time past, in my establishment, made use of your Hollow Ware, manufactured from Zinc, and I have no hesitation in saying that they completely answer my expectations, being fully as durable as iron or copper, and not as easily corroded by rust, giving the articles cooked in them no unpleasant taste, and being more beautiful in appearance, and much more easily cleaned than utensils manufactured from any other metal at present made use of in cooking apparatus. I with pleasure recommend them for general use, and have no doubt that whoever will give them a fair trial will find that they fully answer his expectations.*

*STEPHEN HOLT.*

*We have also received the following recommendation from Dr. A. G. Hull.*

J. Westfield & Co.

*Gentlemen,—With great pleasure I can assure you of my entire satisfaction, as to the superiority of your Zinc Hollow Ware, for the purposes of the Diary and Kitchen.*

*The perfect preservation of Milk in my Diary during the warmest days of the past season, induces me to give yours a decided preference to any others previously used, and recommend them as a happy combination of neatness and durability. Yours, &c. A. G. HULL, 132 Fulton street, New-York.*

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*Comstock's Elements of Chemisty,*

IN which the recent discoveries in the science are included, and its doctrines familiarly explained: illustrated by numerous engravings, and designed for the use of schools and academies.

ov 18 For sale by HOYT, PORTER &C